

**GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL
EDUCATION**

Early Intervention Committee

LOCATION

**Governor's Council Conference Room
3601 C Street
Anchorage, Alaska
Teleconference**

Meeting Date

**Wednesday, May 14, 2014
10:00 a.m.**

Attendees:

Karli Lopez – chair
Angie Fraize
Mandy Cleveland
Heidi Haas
Amy Simpson

Community Members:

Wendy Barrett
Breanna Brian
Beth Kaplan
Laurie Thomas

Staff:

Christie Reinhardt
Patrick Reinhart

Prepared by: Sheila Garrant, Peninsula Reporting

CALL TO ORDER – 10:00 a.m.
ROLL CALL

Welcome from the Chair
Announcements and Good News

Karli Lopez announced the personal good news that she and her son will be participating in a trial run of her son's transition to preschool by getting on the bus.

Approval of Agenda and Approval of Past Minutes

Approval of the Agenda

Amy Simpson **MOVED** to approve the agenda. Hearing no objections, the motion **PASSED**.

Approval of Minutes – 4/23/2014

Amy Simpson **MOVED** to approve the minutes. Hearing no objections, the motion **PASSED**.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence reported at the meeting.

Reports

Chair's Report

Karli Lopez reported that the Governor's Council meeting held at the end of April went well. She reported that one of the major focuses throughout the meeting was telehealth, and the Council developed specific goals for each of the committees regarding that focus.

Partner Reports

EI/ILP

Laurie Thomas reported that they held a coordinator's day in April after the Early Childhood Mental Health Conference and many coordinators came together to look at the strategic plan and a process around committee work and strategic planning. Laurie stated that prior to her move from Ketchikan, she had started a process of applying for intensive technical assistance around financial systems, and they were approved and received funding to participate in the initiative. The first meeting was last week in New Orleans, and it was fantastic. She learned a lot about the variety of systems states have for financing early intervention. She noted that they are moving forward with finding ways to strengthen their own finance system as part of their strategic plan.

Laurie Thomas reported that they are beginning the work on planning for their Statewide System Improvement Plan that the federal government is requiring all states do with a focus around outcome areas. She noted that they would be focusing on social/emotional development since this is an area where they continue to need training and support. They plan to include EIC members in that process.

Laurie Thomas reported that they have hired for two of the three vacant staff positions. They are interviewing for the open position this week and will hopefully find a qualified applicant in order to be fully staffed.

AILPA

Amy Simpson reported that AILPA has been working in conjunction with IE/ILP on the strategic plan. They've also had a lot of discussion around the state finance system and Part C, and they have been gathering data on program billing for services to make sure that they are meeting the letter and spirit of the regulations. There was also a discussion around the real cost of CAPTA referrals. Laurie Thomas noted that she is also interested in finding a way to capture the cost of those CAPTA referrals that do not make it to enrollment as there are resources utilized and the cost of that portion is an important part of the picture.

EED

A representative from EED was not available to report at this meeting. Christie Reinhardt noted that the Department hired a 619 specialist who will

join the committee at the June meeting.

EDHI

Beth Kaplan reported that EDHI is working on quality improvement and quality assurance projects. She noted that their children's unit is reapplying for a medical home, and they will be looking for opportunities to collaborate with early intervention on a medical home for the next few years.

FASD Work Group

Christie Reinhardt reported that the FASD Work Group met after the Governor's Council meeting where they had brought forward their priorities. Christie described the overarching framework for the work group is promoting FASD-informed care. The first priority is advocating for FASD to be recognized as a developmental disability for DD eligibility, not just a mental health concern. The second priority is advocacy and self-advocacy. Anna Attla is spearheading the self-advocate's group, FASD into Action. The third focus is looking at drug and alcohol abuse treatment programs for individuals who have been impacted by a FASD. The fourth focus is prevention, aligning with the State's focus on alcohol prevention and adding the message of preventing secondary characteristics with people who have already been born with a FASD.

Old Business/New Business

Priorities from Council Meeting

The committee members reviewed the priorities presented at the Council meeting. Because there have been significant changes to the goals as they relate to the Council's State Plan, once the committee reviews and comments on the goals, the work plan will go for public comment.

The goals and discussion were as follows:

- 1. Explore the use of technology and telepractice as a way to increase services in rural communities, in particular access to specialists, OT, PT, SLP, behavior.**

Additional activities:

- Amy Simpson volunteered to be the EIC representative on the committee regarding tele-practice.
- Define roles of all stakeholder groups in regards to tele-practice

2. Explore and advocate for improved understanding by parents and providers of parent rights and procedural safeguards under IDEA.

Additional activities:

- Reach out to states for information regarding the activities used to improve understanding of parental rights.
- Collect data collected through grants related to parental rights.
- Look at individual programs statewide at trainings and media used for parental rights.
- Exploring reasons for non-consent for ILP and dropped enrollment.
- Look at complaint resolution process and exit surveys.
- Explore transition processes at different stages.

3. Advocate for and facilitate increased partnerships, communications and collaboration between parents, partners, and stakeholders

Additional activities:

- Have an EIC representative attend EI/ILP Service Delivery Committee meetings

4. Advocate for more inclusive childcare opportunities statewide.

Additional activities:

- Identify available resources.
- Identify barriers to childcare licensing.

5. Meet federally mandated requirements as Alaska's ICC for Infants, Toddlers with Disabilities under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

Time and Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for June 25th, 2014 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Good of the Order and Adjournment

Mandy Cleveland **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting. Hearing no objections, the motion **PASSED** and the meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.